

Message Text

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USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0256

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: ITALIAN PRESENTATION AT SEPTEMBER
24 PLENARY

ANKARA FOR DELIVERY OF TEXT TO NATO DEPARTMENT,
TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT THE SEPTEMBER 24 PLENARY MEETING
OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, STATEMENTS WERE DELIVERED BY
THE CANADIAN REP (GRANDE), THE CZECHOSLOVAK REP (KLEIN)
AND THE ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI); TEXT OF THE CANADIAN
AND CZECHOSLOVAK STATEMENTS BY SEPTELS. IN HIS BRIEF
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STATEMENT CLOSING THE SEPTEMBER 24 PLENARY, CAGIATI,

SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF ALLIED REPS, REJECTED AS "UNFOUNDED AND UNACCEPTABLE" THE JULY 17 HUNGARIAN PLENARY STATEMENT RELATING THE STATUS OF HUNGARY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO THE PARTICIPATION OF ITALY. CAGIATI NOTED THAT THE HUNGARIAN QUESTION HAD BEEN LEFT OPEN IN THE PRELIMINARY TALKS AND COULD NOT BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ITALY. THE TEXT OF THE ITALIAN STATEMENT, AS APPROVED BY THE AD HOC GROUP SEPTEMBER 23, READS AS FOLLOWS: END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

1. MR. CHAIRMAN,

IN HIS INTERVENTION DURING OUR LAST PLENARY MEETING OF 17 JULY, THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF HUNGARY STATED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF HIS COUNTRY IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, AS FOLLOWS:

"AS WAS SET OUT IN THE COURSE OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF HUNGARY AND OF OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, HUNGARY COULD CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF HER PARTICIPATION IN POSSIBLE DECISIONS, AGREEMENTS OR MEASURES ONLY IF THE APPROPRIATE CONDITIONS ARE FULFILLED. THESE CONDITIONS ARE WELL KNOWN TO ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS OUR UNCHANGING POSITION."

2. THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF HUNGARY FURTHER QUOTED A STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY ON 25 APRIL 1974, IN WHICH ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS WAS MENTIONED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STATUS OF HUNGARY AS A PARTICIPANT IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. SINCE ON THAT OCCASION ITALY WAS EXPLICITLY MENTIONED IN DIRECT CONNECTION WITH THE STATUS OF HUNGARY, MY COLLEAGUES AND I THEREFORE FEEL IT APPROPRIATE TO CLARIFY THE FOLLOWING.

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IN MY OPENING STATEMENT AT THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF 30 OCTOBER 1973, I STATED:

"ITALY, AS A SOUTHERN FLANK COUNTRY, IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE AREA OF CONTEMPLATED REDUCTION OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, BUT SHE IS NEVERTHELESS VERY INTERESTED IN THE REALIZATION OF AN AGREEMENT WHICH SHOULD REDUCE THE CONFRONTATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION WITHOUT ENDANGERING

THE SITUATION IN OTHER REGIONS OF OUR CONTINENT."

4. THE WESTERN POSITION ON THE STATUS OF HUNGARY REMAINS AS SET OUT IN THE RECORD OF THE PLENARY SESSION OF 14 MAY 1973. AS IT IS WELL KNOWN, MY COLLEAGUES AND I CONSIDER THE SITUATION OF HUNGARY AS BEING QUITE DISTINCT FROM THAT OF ITALY.

5. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT HUNGARY IS CLEARLY A GEOGRAPHICAL PART OF CENTRAL EUROPE. ITALY IS A MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY, WHICH INDISPUTABLY BELONGS TO SOUTHERN EUROPE. IN CONTRAST TO HUNGARY, ITALY IS GEOGRAPHICALLY SEPARATED FROM THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS WHICH, AS IT WAS AGREED, EXCLUSIVELY RELATES TO CENTRAL EUROPE.

6. TO ATTEMPT IN ANY WAY TO BRING THE HUNGARIAN QUESTION -- WHICH WAS LEFT OPEN IN THE PRELIMINARY TALKS PURELY IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR AN EARLY START OF THE NEGOTIATIONS -- INTO ASSOCIATION WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ITALY IS, THEREFORE, NEITHER GEOGRAPHICALLY NOR LOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE. FOR THESE REASONS I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM CLEARLY THAT MY COLLEAGUES AND I CONSIDER ANY SUCH ASSOCIATION AS BEING UNFOUNDED AND UNACCEPTABLE. END TEXT.RESOR

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